

## REMARKS

An Office Action was mailed in the above-captioned application on March 10, 2004. In such Office Action claims 10, 11, 13, 16-19, 33, 36, 52, and 59-68 were pending. Claims 10, 11, 13, 16-19, 33, 36, 52, and 59-63 were allowed. Claims 64, 65, 67, and 68 were rejected. Claim 66 was objected to. This Amendment and Remarks document is submitted in response to said Office Action.

### The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 64, 65, 67, and 68 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,280,618 to Watkins, et al. Applicant does not acquiesce in the Examiner's reasoning with regard to this rejection; however, solely in the interest of expediting prosecution, Claims 64, 65, 67, and 68 have been cancelled. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the cancelled subject matter in a continuing application.

### Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with thanks the Examiner's determination that Claims 10, 11, 13, 16-19, 33, 36, 52, and 59-63 are allowable.

As suggested by the Examiner, Claim 66 has been amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

### Closing Remarks

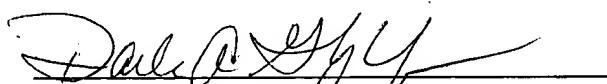
Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the claims are not in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner call to discuss this case with the undersigned.

This constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and an authorization to charge all fees therefore to deposit account No. 19-5117, if not otherwise specifically requested. The

undersigned hereby authorizes the charge of any fees created by the filing of this document or any deficiency of fees submitted herewith to be charged to deposit account No. 19-5117.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 28, 2004



Darla G. Yoerg, #48,053  
Swanson & Bratschun, L.L.C.  
1745 Shea Center Drive, Suite 330  
Highlands Ranch, Colorado 80129  
Telephone: (303) 268-0066  
Facsimile: (303) 268-0065

cc: W. Leschensky

S:\CLIENT FOLDERS\SURROMED\30\FINAL OA RESP.DOC